

Mr. P E P Y S

To the President and Governours
of CHRIST-HOSPITAL upon
the Present State of the said
HOSPITAL.

To the Honour'd Sir John Moor, Kt. and President,
and the rest of my Honour'd Friends, the Governours of CHRIST-HOSPITAL.

York-Buildings. Monday, Novem. 21. 1698.

Gentlemen,

IN pursuance of a Resolution of his Lordship the present Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen at their last Sitting (our Worthy President Sir John Moore present) in approval of a Proposition of mine on that behalf: I inclose You Copys of two Papers of mine lately wrote, and for their readier Use prepar'd as these are, and directed to the several Members of that Court; relating to what has pass'd between the late Lord Mayor, the said Court, and My self, upon the present State of this Hospital.

And this I do; as well for your Information in all my Proceedings in this Matter, and satisfaction in the Regard shewn therein to the Honour, no less than Service of this House (notwithstanding what has been so injuriously averr'd in it to the contrary) as for inlight'ning at once your whole Body, in the Truth, and Moment of the Particulars in present Debate concerning it.

In order whereto, and for that the Court of Aldermen have not yet thought fit to allow of my repeated Suit to Them, for their disburthening me of the Charge I still lie under from them, as your Fellow-Servant. I do (as such) tender it as my earnest and humble Advice to you, that these Papers may not, like others of mine of equal Import, be taken-up, and the knowledge of them suppress'd, to the (I fear) irreparable Wrong of this House: But, if it may stand with your good liking, communicated to a General Court specially call'd on that behalf. For

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as much as, that being done, *I* shall not doubt a much happier *Issue* of your *Deliberations* thereon, than can attend any longer want of it : *Besides* the preventing what *I* should otherwise be most unwillingly driven to, of supplying the ineffectuallness of these *Papers* thus address'd to *You* in a *Body*, by a *several One* to be transmitted to every *Member* of it. Which *I* cannot but think my *Duty* to see done ; while standing all of us equally interested in the *knowing* , and accountable for the *due improving* thereof, to the *Benefit* of the *Poor*, and *satisfaction* of *Those* we stand intrusted by for *Them*.

Which *praying* your taking in good part from me, as the last *Occasion*, *I* hope, ever to have of asking it on these *Terms* ; *I* do with most sincere *Respect* remain,

Honour'd Gentlemen,

Your faithful and obedient Servant,

S. Pepys.

*At a General Court holden in Christs-Hospital.
the 21th. day of Novem. 1698.*

UPon reading a *Letter* with some printed *Papers* from *Samuel Pepys, Esq;* which were all inclosed in a *Cover*, and directed to the *President*, and *Governours* of this *Hospital*, assembled in *Court* this 21th of *November 1698*. It was by this *Court* ordered, that a *General Court* shall be summoned to meet on *Friday* next in the *Aftrnoon*, particularly for consideration of these *Papers* ; And *Major Aungier* is desired to attend *Mr. Pepys*, and acquaint him with the meeting of the *Court* next *Friday*. and request the favour of his *presence*, and to let him know, that if he doth not think that a convenient *Day*, than to desire him to appoint some other short *Day*, as may best suit with his occasions ; and come provided with the *particulars* of his charge against this *Hospital*.

William Parrey.

To the President and Governours
of CHRIST-HOSPITAL assembled
in Court, this 25th. of
November 1698.

York-Buildings, Fryday,
Novemb. 25th. 1698.

Gentlemen,

I Truly meant what I said, when in *Apology* for the trouble of mine of the 21th. instant, I bespoke your *Pardon*; as for the *Last* I then thought my self ever likely to have occasion of asking it from you on that *Subject*. But your *Commands* of the same *Date*, since brought me by one of your own *Number*, notifying your *Concurrence* with me, in assigning this day for holding a special *Court* upon the *Papers* I then presented you with; require my *appearing* to you once more, not with an *Approval* only, but with my most serious *Thanks* for what you have therein done; in confidence of its having the good *Effects* I then bespoke to this unhappy *House* from it.

But having said this; there are two *Particulars* you at the same time demand of me, which for the sake of such *Gentlemen* (and those only) as the *Extraordinaryness* of the *Summons* may possibly draw hither, beyond what the common *Businesses* of the *House* either are, or can reasonably expect to be attended by; you have made it necessary for me, in right both to *them* and my *self*, to give you a more particular *Return* to, viz. your bespeaking my *Personal Attendance* at Your present *Meeting*, and the bringing with me the *Particulars* of my *Charge* against this *Hospital*.

As to the *Former* whereof; it might possibly be deemed too much for me, here to anticipate the *Satisfaction* I have largely provided for these very *Gentlemen* on this *Head*, out of Your own *Books*, in that *Report* of mine, which has lain from more than eight *Months* since, in the *Hands* of Your late *Lord Mayor*, and is now remaining with his honourable *Successor* in the *Court of Aldermen*. From a *Committee* of whom, having lately had

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the Honour of a double *Visit*, upon the Subject thereof; I assure my self of your soon receiving from that Court, full Satisfaction in the Truth of what I here assert.

In the mean time nevertheless, I shall crave leave to observe to these Gentlemen, that the *Evils* being all now actually falling on Us, which I so long ago foretold, and most painfully labour'd to prevent; None, I presume, will wonder, if I forbear unnecessarily to bring my self within the Reach of a Ruin, I then in Writing advised you of the Reasons of my *Withdrawing* from; but will (may I pre-judge of any thing) see occasion, sooner to lament their own, than censure my Proceeding herein. Especially, when in the Publick Inquisitions which this Matter must inevitably draw on Us, they shall find themselves, from the very Register of their Attendances, made accountable for the Obliquities of our Courts and Committees, even in those very Transactions, wherein themselves possibly were wholly passive, if not open Opposers: And this also most to be apprehended, from the very Men they were so overborn by, therein. For such was my Observation in my own Case, in more than a few Instances (still to be recurr'd to) before, for Self-security, I was forced to let fall the Personal Duty I had for seven Years had the honour of paying to this House; and not (I thank God) without some Marks still extant of the Fruits of it.

But for the Other, relating to the Particulars you ask-for, of my Charge against this Hospital. I do not know, that in any thing I have hitherto said or done in this Cause, I have so demeaned my self; as to deserve being treated as your Accuser. Forasmuch, as had that been in my Eye, I should not have chosen either this Style or this Place for the executing it in.

But if there be any of our Number, whose Managements of their Trusts have been such, as will not endure a plain and impartial State of our Condition to be laid either before the House it self, or those to whom it stands immediately accountable for it (and that is all I have hitherto pretended to) without giving it the envious Brand of a Charge against them. I must not then disown my being indeed their Accuser: But in lieu of the former Difficulty, declare my self yet so much the more surpris'd, how they should come now to own the want of a Charge from me, whose every Paper, from the day of my Withdrawing from them to this, has been little other. A Truth that will but too soon become necessary to be shewn them.

But forasmuch as I have reason to believe this Demand to be owing only to the Uneasinesses it has been my Misfortune to occasion somewhere, by my late Enquiries into these Managements, and from my Endeavours to apprise this Court of the true Effects thereof, upon the miserable Infants we stand here accountable to Almighty God for. I shall take leave to put them in mind, of what was (at their own instance) laid before them from me on this Subject, now near twelve Months since. Whereof, least it may have been the Fate of That also, to miss your View, as it has been Another's of a later Date: I am prepared for supplying you with such a Copy of it, as these Gentlemen will least question the Truth of, when they find it transcribed all with the Treasurer's own Hand,
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and attested by the *Clerks* of most present *Credit* with them, *Mr. Reeve*, *Mr. Plumb*, and *Mr. Teo*. And if this *Paper*, with what it contains of the present *State* of this *House*, must be taken for a **Charge** against them; I am not surpris'd at their *Disquiet* under it: As knowing how much I should myself be *grieved*, to have that asserted to me of any *One* other *Foundation* of *Charity* in **England**, which is there said by me of *this*; without having to this *Hour* received from them one *Word* of *Exception* to it, tho invited thereto, with an *offer* on my *part*, of exposing to them, from their own *Books* and *Registers*, the *Grounds* of every *Article* in it.

And if this be the *Case* in this *Instance*; how much less will there appear of *Reason* for their calling on me for the *Particulars* of a **Charge**, when I shall yet refer them to my foremention'd **Report** (whereof this is but the *Contents* of one *Part* onely) which was by me lodg'd with *Sir Humphry Edwin* your late *Lord Mayor*, and directed to you so many *Months* since, with his then *Undertaking* for its speedy *Delivery* and publick *Enquiry* into; and yet but now newly *discovered*, and taken into the *Custody* of his honourable *Successor* and the *Court* of *Aldermen*; for the *Good*, I hope, (as late as it is) of those for whose sake I provided it?

In order to which, having thus said what I think needful and my *Duty* to do, in *Return* to this your *Order*; I shall (as *One* not yet free from my *Obligation* to this *Place*) take the liberty of giving it you as my most humble *Advice*. That this **Court** would (in the most satisfactory manner it may) apply it self to the **Court** of *Aldermen* for the *Original* or *Duplicate* of that **Report**. As that without which (in the *Hands* you at present are) I see not how possibly you will ever arrive at a true *Knowledge* of the wretchedness of your *Condition*, even in the single *Point* of your *Revenue*; which is the sole *Subject* of it. Besides what I have elsewhere noted, relating to the **Moral Part**: To which (at least in the *Reproachfulness* of it) you will, I fear, find that to bear no other *Proportion*, than the *Deficiency* of *Light* at a *Gloomy Noon*, do's to that of the darkest *Midnight*.

Nor can I permit my self to let pass unobserved to you on this occasion, what I have lately understood, touching the *Difference* now newly raised between the *Court* of *Aldermen* and this *House*, upon the *General Point* of **Subordination**, and particularly in that of **Accounting**.

Concerning the former of which; let me beg you, as *One* whose *Searches*, in this your *Service*, have made him more than ordinarily conversant in the *History* of your **Hospital**; not to be misled to an *Opinion* contradictory to the *Tenor* of your own *Books*, and the *Practice* of your *Predecessors*, through all the *Marks* of **Subjection** incident to such a *Relation*. And this from the very first day of our *Institution*; confirm'd by our having at this hour no other *Title* to the *Trust* we our selves are now exercising in this *Place*, than our *Election* and *Appointment* thereto from that **Court**.

And for the latter, touching our *Accounting* to them; I beseech You to consider, *Who* it is, we would be thought to own Our selves *accountable* to, if not to those we are *entrusted* by? Or, Would we give the *World* ground to think; that while we stand answerable for our being a-

ble to convince all *Gainſayers* in the *Matters* of our **Faith**; and answer every *Demand* touching the *Reason* of our **Hope**; we would be exempt from an *Accountableneſs* to any body, for our *Managements* of **Charity**, that's *Greater* than *Either* of them?

True it is; That for the *Difficulty* made by Your **Treasurer** and his **Accountant** in their Compliance with the late *Orders* of that *Court*, for their *Signing* and remitting thither under their *Hands*, the **Accounts** formerly ſent them *unſigned*: There may be more *Reason* for it, than either *Your ſelves* are permitted to know, or that *Court* can yet conceive; as being (I affirm to You) in no wiſe to be *juſtified*, when *Signed*. But as their *Demand* herein ſeems no otherwiſe reſtrained to theſe *Accounts*, than as they came to them *Unattested*; nor *Our ſelves* to be thought, at this time of day, unprovided for rendring them full *Satisfaction* in this *Particular*, after little leſs than two *Years Notice* given your *Auditors*, by the **Treasurers** *Reſignation* of his *Office*, of a **Thorough-State** neceſſarily to be adjusted of his **Accounts**, in order to Your *Election* of a **Successor**: Towards which nevertheleſs, I hear not of One *Stroke* yet ſtruck in *November 1698*, for ſo much as the *Accompt* of the *Year 1697*. So muſt that *Gentleman* be very little acquainted with the *Practice* of this *House*; who knows not how much it has in all *Ages*, not only been ſubject to the *Demands* of the **Lord Mayor** and **Court of Aldermen** in this *Particular*; but have *Themſelves* made uſe of it in their *Diſtreſſes*, as their ſureſt and indeed only *Reſort* for their *Supplies*; I mean by their *Applications* to that **Court**, with their *Accounts* ſhewing the *Reasons* of thoſe *Diſtreſſes*. Beſides that it is not only *They*, from whom alone (as before) we derive theſe our *Truſts*; but *They* alſo, who ſtand accountable to the **Body Corporate** of the **City**, as *That* alſo doth by ſolemn *Covenants* to the **King**, for our *well-diſcharging* the ſame.

Be pleaſed then to think of putting a ſpeedy *End* to this *Diſpute*, that muſt otherwiſe prove *diſtructive* of the very **Foundation** we are concerned for.

Nor let what is here offer'd You, loſe any of its *Force*, for the ſake of him that offers it. As being **One**, too well acquainted with other *Subjects*, more worthy his *ſacrificing* ſo much of the little *Reſidue* of his *Time* and *private Study* to, than this before us: Were it not, that he would be glad, to convert ſome part of the *Leaſure* **God Almighty** has been pleaſed to bleſs the *Evening* of his *Life* with, to a **Good** ſo publickly meritorious, as he takes *This* to be: and is therefore grieved to find *Marks* of *Hardſhip* placed by you upon thoſe of your *Servants*, who can but be *ſuſpected* of having given any *Aſſiſtance* towards it; and that moſt of all on him, from whom of the whole number of your *Clerks* I have received the *leaſt* (as you may ſhortly have occaſion to ſee) though from *None* of them more, than by their *Duty* and ſpecial *Order* of *Court* they were obliged to; nor yet **All** that when put together, near ſo much in the moment of it, as from the **Treasurer** himſelf and his **Accountant**, now lying by me under their *Hands*.

But when the *Management* of **Publick Charities** ſhall become a *Buſineſs* of **Mystery**; it will be time for **Good men** to think of being their own **almoners**. And I pray God, it prove not our *Miſfortune*, to ſet the
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first Copy towards it; there seeming nothing left within my *Power* (should this my last *Attempt* with both *Bodies*, the *Court of Aldermen* I mean, and *This*, together fail) but a *Royal Visitation* to prevent it.

With which; I do with the deepest *Respect* take my final *leave* of this sort of *Intercourse* between you and me on this *Occasion*; remaining,

Honour'd Gentlemen,

Your most faithful and obedient Servant,

S. Pepys.

A COPY of Mr. PEPYS's fore-
mentioned Representation sent to
CHRIST-HOSPITAL near
12. Months since.

To the Honour'd Sir John Moor, Kt. and President,
and the rest of my Honour'd Friends, the Gover-
nours of CHRIST-HOSPITAL, assembled in
Court this 17. of Decem. 1697.

York-Buildings Decem. 17th, 1697.

Gentlemen,

I Have receiv'd the *Notice* order'd me from your last *Court* of the 10th. *instant*, touching the *Respite* then put to your *Election* of a new *Treasurer*, upon the *Want*, (as it would seem) of my expected *Report* of the *State* of your *House*.

In *answer* whereto, and that the *Consequences* (if any) of that *Delay*, may not rest upon this suppos'd *Failure* of mine; be pleas'd to be re-
minded of your being expressly *advertis'd* of the readiness of that *Report*,
by a Worthy *Member* of your *Body*, at a very full *Court*, upon the 28th.
of *September* last, now near three *Months* since; without the least *intimation*

mation given me, either then or since, of your *desiring* it from me, but rather the contrary, to *this day*.

Nor durst I, unask'd, take upon me the *exposing* of it; nor shall even *now*, of more than may be useful to the special *Purpose* for which you now demand it, relating to the **Treasurer**. And I pray *God*, the bringing even this, all at once, to a *Publick Court*, may be follow'd with no *inconvenience*. But *You* have requir'd it, and I *obey*; praying *You* to accept of what I have here with all *respect* to offer *You* thereon, in these few and succinct **Propositions**.

1st. — **That** by the first *General Audit*, after your present **Treasurer's** *Accession* to his *Office* in 1683. (for I think it *enough* on my part, and *no more* than so on yours, that I go so far back in my *Retrospection*) he became charged with a *Ballance* in *Cash* of 3300 *l*.

2^{ly}. — **That** upon a strict *Collating* of the *Nett Receipts* of each *Year*, from that time to the *Close* of the *Year* 1696, or according to the peculiar *Stile* of this *House*, to *Midsummer* 1697. I find to have been *Received* and *Expended* of the *Stock* of the *House* within this *House* (that *Ballance* included) above 175000 *l*.

3^{ly}. — **That** neither, of this *Sum*, nor of any *Part* of it, nor of the *State* of your *Revenue* in general; has there ever been any one *Representation* made to, or *Cognizance* had of it by the Lord *Mayor* and *Body Corporate* of the *City* (the Only *Governors* of the *Hospital-Revenues*) though peculiarly *Charg'd* with an *Accountableness* for our *Managements* of the same, to the best *Benefit* of the *House*; But so much the *contrary*, that I find not one *Account* thereof to have been ever reported even to *Your selves*, from your *Committee* of *Auditors*; much less *controll'd*, *approv'd*, and *confirm'd* by *You* in *Court* (as all *Acts* of *Committees*, especially in *Fundamentals* like this, ought to be) to *this day*.

4^{ly}. — **That** it doth not appear to me, either from your *Books*, or my best informations from your *Clerks* and *Accomptants*, that any *Share* of the *Controlling* and *Auditing-Part* of your said *Accounts*, is regularly *Executed*, by a *Quorum* of that *Committee* duely *summon'd* thereto, *saving* the last *Act* of it only, I mean, the *Signing* of it *De bene esse*, after being *ingross'd*. Which (and that *alone*) appears indeed to have a solemn *Day* and *Entertainment* assign'd for it, at the *Charge* of the *Hospital*.

5^{ly}. — **That** in consequence of this, and of the general *Order* of those your *Accounts*, I have not found any one *Year's* so digested, as that by it *alone*, a sincere and strict *Enquirer* could be either *fully* or *truly* apprised of the *General State* of the *House's Revenue*; or so, as to be able, though possibly *true*, to satisfy himself in its being so.

6^{ly}. — **That** as one *Evidence* only of this last *Truth*; *You* may be pleas'd with very little *difficulty*, to inform *Your selves*, that in as ill a *Condition* as this *House* is on all hands known to be; there is not any one *Year* (as far as my strictest *inspections* can enlighten me) wherein Your *General Account* thereof so *audited*, has not declared *You Masters* both of a *Remain* of *Cash* and *Ballance* in *Stock*, frequently to above 10. sometimes 11. and 12. and one *Year* with another to above 8000 *l*. (all *Debts* provided for) from the very first *Entrance* of this *Gentleman* upon his *Treasurership*, to *this Day*.

7^{ly}. — **That**

7ly.—**That** notwithstanding the 17500*l.* received as before; with the continu'd *Representations* of our being always thus amply in **Stock**; We have at this day, not only *Complaints* hourly shower'd on Us, as well of our *Wants* at *Home*, as the *Distresses* of our *Nurses* and *Children* *Abroad*; but (as far as your own *Books* may in any wise be rely'd-on) stand *indebted* at this very hour, to the *Wills* of our *Dead*, and *Appointments* of our *Living Benefactors*, and to others our **Creditors** (beyond all We have in *View* towards discharging the same) to the *Value*, with the *Interest* upon both, of above 35000*l.*

8ly.—**That** as *surprising* as this may appear at its first *Opening* to this **Court**; I am well *convinc'd*, that it will not do so, to any who shall *apply* themselves with the same *Attention* I have done, to the noting and considering all those *unnecessary, unprecedented, wasteful* and *Arbitrary Methods*, to be found in the *Management* of Our **Expences**, wholly inconsistent both with the *Orders* and *Ends* of our *Pious Benefactors*.

9ly.—**That** of this *Debt* of 35000*l.* there rests no less than 19500*l.* specially owing to the **Royal Foundation**; and of *that*, above 1300*l.* *unlay'd-out*, of the *Sums* annually received by Us of the **King's Bounty** out of the **Exchequer**, for putting forth his *Children* to the **Seas**; notwithstanding what you were the last Year *misd*, to the asserting and imposing on the **Lords** of the **Treasury** upon that *Subject*, to the *contrary*. And this; without any one *End* of the whole **Institution** answer'd, or likely to be, under our present *Managements*; Or any one *Year* lately pass'd, wherein our *Printed Reports* thereof will bear *Examination*; any more than the present *Year* is likely to produce *One Child* of its whole *Number*, either duely *Sent Abroad*, or *qualified* for it as he ought to be; While the *Season* too is so near at hand, when Our *Performances* therein should *intitle* Us to another *Year's Payment*.

10ly.—**Lastly**, **That** besides this *Debt* of 35000*l.* thus lying on Us; We labour under a further **Annual Charge** amounting (by the *Medium* of Our last *Seven Years* *Expences*) to above 14600*l. per. Ann.* And this; without Ought in present *View*, towards either *Clearing* the **One**, or Supporting the **Other**, but a **Revenue** We *our selves* publish'd but at *Easter* last in *Print*, to be little more than a *Moiety* of our *Necessary* and **Unavoidable Charge**.

Which doing so; and for the better applying the same to the *Occasion* for which you now call for it; it remains only, that I subjoyn thereto these *Three Short Reflections*.

1st.—**That** before the *Address*, (which I presume) will be of *Course* on this *Occasion* made, to the *Lord Mayor* and *City*, for their *Concurrence* to the *Discharge* of the present, and *Admission* of another **Treasurer**; it seems *indispenceable* on our **Parts**, that they be thoroughly *apprised* of the *contents* of this **Paper**; in order to their considering, what may be *expedient* to be first done for their own needful *Security* therein. And this the rather; for that, *whatever* they may think fit to do with respect to any other *Article* of it; I hold my self bound to tell you, that the *Interest* which *my self* in particular bear, in all that concerns the **Mathematick Foundation** (with regard no less to the *Glorious End* of it, in the *Advancement* of the **Navigation** of *England*, than my own
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special *Misfortune*, in contributing what I did, to the unhappy *Choice* made by my *Royal Masters* its *Founders*, of the Place they lodg'd the **Trust** of it in) will oblige me, as a standing Piece of *Duty* to the *Crown*, to insist upon a strict *Account* to be given, of so unexamp'd a *Miscariage*, as that of this their **Foundation**, not yet 25. *Year-old*, yet every *Penny* of its *Endowment* already spent, and the *Support* of it thrown upon, and at this day wholly *born*, out of the *Common Stock* of our *otherwise* sufficiently-wretched *Orphans*, who have no *relation* to it. While at the same time, no single *Instance* is to be shewn, of the *End* of its *Institution* answer'd, within the whole time of our present *Retrospection*.

2ly. — **That** if in this *Paper* ought appears, whereto either the **Treasurer**, or any other *Member* of this *Society*, shall see reason to *except*; and exhibiting the same to this **Court**, shall have it communicated thence to me with their *Approval*; I shall most *readily*, from Your own *Books* and *Registers*, expose to you the *Grounds* of what I have asserted herein; as *One*, who am not conscious (though yet *fallible*) of any one single *Prevarication* from, or *Aggravation* of the **Truth**, in what I have here offer'd You.

3ly. — **Finally**, **That** as *unhappy* as by this my *Draught* of it, the *State* of your *House* must necessarily be thought to be, with respect to its **Revenue**, **Charge** and **Debt**. I cannot but in *faithfulness* thereto further tell you, that it is yet the very *best* Side of the *Prospect* I have to give You of its *Condition*, in the other *Parts* of my **Report**. And that therefore I shall not dare to *trust* either my *self* or this **Court**, with the immediate *Exposing* of it, though Originally designed for You; as deeming it on many *Considerations*, more *becoming* me, and more *behoofeful* to the *Service* of the *House* and its **Door**; that I rather deliver it into the *Hands*, and submit it to the *Disposal* of *Those*, who as standing *primarily* accountable for Our *Managements* to the **King**, are intitled to our *accounting* for the same *first* to *Them*: I mean, my Lord **Mayor** and the foremention'd *Body* of the **City**; from whom *alone*, or in their *Failure* from a **Royal** *Visitation*, the same (if ever) must receive its **Remedy**.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your most humble and faithful Servant,

S. Pepys.

The **Summons** to the forementioned **Court** at
Christ-Hospital.

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Your Worship is earnestly desired to be present at a *Court* to be holden in *Christ-Hospital* upon *Friday* next, being the 25th of this instant *November*, at 3 a Clock in the Afternoon precisely; for the due considering two *Printed Papers* lately presented by Mr. *Pepys* to the Right Honourable the *Lord Mayor* and *Court of Aldermen*, and to the *Court* held at this *House* the 21st instant, Upon the present state of *Christ-Hospital*.

Christ-Hospital
24 Nov. 1698.

William Parrey, *Clerk*.

To the Right Honourable Sir Francis
Child Lord Mayor, and the Court
of Aldermen.

[Accompanying Copies of the preceeding Papers.]

Tork-Buildings, Tuesday, Dec. 6th. 1698.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

AS fully as I had determined against interrupting this *Court* or myself, with the *Interchange* of more **Papers**; I hold my self accountable to you for the *Issue* of your late *Allowance* of my communicating those I last sent you, to the *Gentlemen* of **Christ-Hospital**. Which I did; to the procuring the *Call* of an Extraordinary *Court*, for the *Consideration* of the same. *Duplicates* of which *Transaction*, with a *Copy* of the *Summons* it self provided thereto, I think it for your *Service* to lay before you; together with the *Issue* of the *Whole*, which you may please to take as follows. — *Viz.*

1st. — The Number present at this *Court* of its near four Hundred **Governours** was Fifty six. Which, tho short of what I have known attending the *Choice* of a **Beadle**, a **Porter**, or such only Occasion; was yet double the *Appearance* seen at Ordinary **Courts**.

2^{ly}. — As full nevertheless as it was, no Part of the **Work** it was specially called for, was either done, or had any *Entry* made towards it: the **Papers** themselves, in the full three *Hours* of its sitting, not having had so much as a **Reading-Time** allowed them, nor any other assigned for the doing it.

34. — The *Matter* mainly 'handled therein, was that of their **Treasurer's** being required by this **Court** to Sign his *Accounts*, and present them back thereto, when *Signed*. In which I had the good *Fortune* of offering these *Gentlemen*, together with the forementioned *Papers*, some *Thoughts* of mine upon the **Deference** due to **you**, both from *that* and every other **Hospital**; so as to obtain the *Reversal* of their former *Resolution* in opposing it. But not till by the length of the *Contest*, their Fifty six were reduced to Twenty nine; and not then neither, upon a *Division*, by any greater *Majority* than that of *Three*. And this too in the *Case* of an **Account**, wherein not their *own Orders* any more than *yours*, have

Mr. PEPYS,

upon the State of

Christ-Hospital.

Paper III.

Apr 29. 1699.

been of force with either **Accountant** or **Auditors**, in more than two *years*, to produce any *Compliance*, or (for ought I can yet hear or see) any *Preparation*, *Disposition*, or even *Capacity* towards it.

What rests there then for me to say, either to *you*, My Lord and Gentlemen, or *Myself* in this *Cause*; more than the recommending it to *you*, as I most earnestly therefore do? Either instantly to exert the **Authority** thus asserted by me in *your Right*, and since submitted to my honour'd Friend Sir Robert Clayton, and your *learned Council*, with the *Grounds* of my doing so: to the end both *you* and *I* may have the *Satisfaction* of foreseeing some *Effect* of what we are *now* doing, towards the *Remedying* no less than *Ascertaining* the **Evils** we are in pursuit of, on behalf of our **Orphans**. Or leave me to the *Method* I have heretofore communicated my *purpose* to *you* of resorting to, by a **Royal Visitation**. Which from the **Proof** I lately gave you of it, in the *Case* of **St. Charities**; We are well assured, both *can* and *will* make it self equally *effectual*, to them and *Us*, in *Both*. I am

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your most faithful and most obedient Servant,

S. Pepys.

Mr. P E P Y S

To the President, and Governours
of CHRIST-HOSPITAL upon
the Present State of the said
HOSPITAL.

To the Honour'd Sir John Moor, Kt. and President,
and the rest of my Honour'd Friends, the Governours of CHRIST-HOSPITAL.

Tork-Buildings. January 25th. 169³.

Gentlemen,

LET not (I beg you) my *Appearance* here yet once more as I now do, be imputed to any *Satisfaction* I have in the *uneasiness* of this **Court**, whose *Honourer* I truly am; nor yet to the *Want* of where-with otherwise to employ every *Hour* of my **Life**, more to my own *Content*; but to the *Sincerity* of that *Concernment* for the *Prosperity* of this **House**, which I shall always bear about me, while *They* at least who first called me to it (My Lord **Mayor**, I mean, and **Court** of **Aldermen**) shall think fit to *suspend* the *Delivering* me of the *Share* I yet hold, as their *Servant*, in the **Charge** of it. A *Favour* I have been long their *Suitor* for, and should thankfully acknowledge any *Assistance* from this **Court** towards it.

Not that it is my *Purpose* to trouble You with ought I have at any time *already* laid before You: But what alone You have *Your selves* been pleas'd to administer *fresh Subject* to me for, since the *Date* of my last. And particularly,

1st.—In the *Unconcernedness* wherewith this **Court** is still pleas'd (after all I have been able to *inculcate* concerning it) to *over-look* the making-up of your **Publick States** and **Lists** of the *Children* of the **Royal Foundation**, annually requir'd from You by the *King*, and expressly calculated for the *Service* of the **Croton**. Whereof not *One* has

A

now

now for some Years past, been composed with the Integrity becoming the Dispensers of so Sacred and Princely a **Charity**. Nor of them all; any One so little justifiable, as that which was last deliver'd as Your **New-Years-Gift** into the King's Own Hand by Your **Treasurer's**, in the Name not only of the **President and Body** of us the **Governours** of this **Hospital**, but of the Lord **Mayor** also of this City, the **First Trustee** of the **Crown** for that **Foundation**.

Which how far his **Lordship** or this **Court** shall think fit to sit-down-with, I ask not; but hold it my **Duty** to make (as I hereby do) my own most solemn **Protest** against it; as against a **Paper**, neither *sincere*, nor *true*; but (as such) most injurious to the **Honour** both of **Hospital** and **City**.

2ly. — In your arraigning the **Credit** of your own *Dealings* (beyond all that could be offer'd to it from without **Doors**) in the **Publick Review** lately had by Your **Order**, of that **One Chapter** of Your **Treasurer's Account** which specially relates to that **Foundation**. An **Account**, that after a **Demand** of more than two **Years** standing, and as long a **Preparation**, has been once *actually laid* (as from this **Houle**) before the **Court** of Lord **Mayor** and **Aldermen**; with **Copies** of it gone abroad, and one of them now in *my Hand*. And this **Review** executed, not by the **Body** of Your **Auditors**, nor yet of those of them whose **Hands** lie originally at **Stake** for the **Truth** of it; But by a **Junto** of the **Treasurer's** single **Appointment**: of whom the **Greater Part** such, as appear not to have assisted at any **One Audit**, within the whole **Time** of his **Treasurership**; nor now *dispos'd* (for ought I hear) to assert under their **Hands** the **Truth** of what they have been so doing, and are this day design'd to give You their **Report** of. A **Proceeding** most *hazardous*, if not of *certain injury* to the **Honour** of this **Place**; by adding to the **Difficulty** of *justifying* this **Double Account**, even where they agree; the yet greater of *reconciling* them, in what they differ.

Which being the **Case**; the most effectual **Proof** I can hope to give You of my **Solicitousness** for the **Credit** of this **Court**, against the **Enquiries** of a yet **Higher Form** to be expected into this and every other **Article** of your **Treasurer's Accounts**; where not his **Hand** only (as now) but his **Oath** also and his **Accomptant's** will be held little enough to gain them **Admission**: is the directing you to the **Worthy Members** of this **Body**, whose singular **Applications** to, and long **Inspection** into the **Business** of your **Computing-Houle**, do especially intitle them to the **Charge** of seeing **Right** done both to *Themselves*, to you, and to the **Poor** therein, *viz.*

Sir Mat. Andrews.

Sir Will. Russel.

Mr. Stroad.

Sir Edm. Turner.

Mr. Lockington.

Mr. Foster.

Who having, among them, been at the **Audit** of, and warranted by their **Signing**, every **Account** (from first to last) of the present **Treasurer**; have thereindone more than any like **Number**, or even the whole remaining **Ninety** of your **Committee of Auditors**.

Nor, for the *same reason*, ought I to neglect the noting to you the no less **Worthy Gentlemen**, to whose **eight Months Labour**, and special **Influence**, signaliz'd at your late **Select Committee** for the **State** of

of your **House**, You stand most *indebted*; and for the advantageous *Report* they are pleas'd at this very day to entertain the *World* with, of it — viz.

Mr. **Hidgley**.

Mr. **St-Amand**.

Doctor **Carr**.

Mr. **Lane**.

Mr. **Boddington**.

Mr. **Mallozy**.

Upon *whom* also I do *myself* chiefly rely, for the *Convictions* promis'd me, of the *Errors* of my own less grateful *Computations* touching the same: When (by the Delivery of this *Account* of Yours to the **Court** of **Aldermen**) You shall become possess'd of that *Report* of mine lying with *them*, by which you will be admitted to such a *View* of our *Wretchedness*, as was never yet *expos'd* to, nor is (*I* fear) ever likely to be otherwise come-at, by this **Court**.

On which *Score*, and that no *Time* may be lost in your *Arrival* there-at; let me once more beg Your hastening the *Removal* of the *Impediment* given thereto, by your *Refusal* of this *Account* to that **Court**: In *contradiction* to the most mature *Resolution* taken by *One* of your own, summon'd in the most *solemn* Manner, and on the most *solemn* Occasion; that the *Business* or *Trust* of this **House** is capable of; and owing only to the *Presumption* of a *Private One*, not yet *confirm'd* by any other; and so rendring the whole *Transaction* of this **Committee** entirely *Extra-judicial*; and as such, by a *Worthy Member* of this **Body** most justly and publickly *protestea-against*.

Besides; that till the matter of our **Revenue** (the sole *Subject* of that *Report*) receive a *Decision*; it seems too soon to proceed to what *I* have yet *behind*, upon the so-often-mention'd *Article* of the **Moral State** of this **Hospital**: As thinking it of little *Use*, and less *Satisfaction*, to be offering more *Matter* for **Grief** and **Reproach** from the *Pollution* of its **Manners**; till better assur'd of wherewith to *support* them, when (by being *better'd*) they shall be brought to *deserve* it.

Which no *Man* (*I* fear) will think they *now* do. that is privy (as *I* am) to the *Universal Looseness* of them, both in *Kind* and *Degree*, beyond what is almost *conceivable* from a **Nursery** consecrated to *Uses* so *pious*, and to the *Benefit* of **Objects** so little to be suspected *susceptible* of the very *thoughts* of them.

A *Truth* too *extensive* to be here enter'd-on, even were it now a *Time* for it. Let it only suffice, as an *Instance* of what *I* shall then have but too long and ungrateful a *deduction* to give you of; that *I* recommend to your *present Enquiry*, the *prostituted Use* made of the *Publick Access* allow'd to your *Children's Devotions* in the *Hall* and the adjacent *Rooms* on **Sunday-Evenings**; and particularly the **Riot** committed by their *lewd Visitors* in the *Girls Ward*, but on **Sunday** last. *I* say, the **Girls Ward**; where (as blameable as *I* take the *Whole* of our present *Discipline* to be) nothing appears more *abandon'd*, than that **Order** and **Modesty** which, till now, has been ever held *Sacred* in that *Place*; whatever might hap'ly be found less justifiable *elsewhere*.

And **This**; notwithstanding the **Infamy** laid (but few *Evenings* before) at your own *Door*, by a *Coach* conducted by the *Mob*, charg'd with two of your *Mathematical Boys*, distinguish'd by the *Badge* of their **Royal**

Founder, taken-up at *Billins-gate*, brought thro' the *City*, deliver'd to you (as before) **Dead-Drunk**, and by their *Fellows* discharg'd (insensible) into their *Ward*. Their **Ward** I say; wherein, as in the former, *Excesses* of the same *Kind*, though not in the same *Measure*, are (*God* knows) but too familiar: And particularly with *Him* of these *Two*, who being now *Head* of the *School*, and *Leader* in this *Fact*, is *One*, who after having enjoy'd for near nine *Years* together, the *Benefit* of this *House's* *Charity*, and spent twice the *Time* originally establish'd for his *Stay* in that *School*; was but lately rejected at the *Trinity-House*, as not yet qualify'd for the *End* of his so chargeable *Education*. And who being also arriv'd to the full *Age* limited for it by the *King*; it seems worthy your *Considering*, what it is you have now to expect from *One*, whom **Debauchery** has carried out of the reach of *Command*, before either his *Learning* or your *Discipline* has fitted him, for knowing how to *Obey*.

Let me only, on this *Occasion*, take leave to lament a little more *nearly*, the unhappy *Conduct* of this **House**: By which it seems at this day brought under the greatest *Weight* of **Reproach**, from that alone, which was *Originally* calculated for, and accordingly received, as its greatest *Honour* and the largest *Instance* of *Royal* *Beneficence*, that was ever at once confer'd on a *House* of **Charity**: I mean, this **Mathematick Foundation**.

The *Thoughts* of which compel me so far at least to *resume* the mention of the *Account* relating to it; as once again to *recommend* it to this **Court**, that no more *Imposures* on his *Majesty* be adventur'd-on, by *Applications* to his *Treasury* for further *Payments* on that *Score*; till We shall have first discharg'd our selves of the *Debt* I so long since noted to You thereon, without ought ever yet return'd me in *Solution* of it.

3^{ly}. — In the little *Regard* had, after near two *Years* pass'd since the **Treasurer's** *Resignation* of his *Office* and Your accepting it, to the forwarding the *Adjustments* of his **Accounts** necessary to the *Execution* of it: We being now *entring* into 1699, without any **Audit** closed, much less *engross'd* and *sign'd*-to for the *Year* 1697.

Besides that (by all I can yet *learn* of what is done towards it) Your *Receipts* for that *Year* have exceeded those of the *Year* preceding; as amounting to full 12000 *l*.: Without a *Farthing* of it yet apply'd to the lessening either Your 13000 *l*. *Debt* to *Benefactors* for *Purchases*, or the 20000 *l*. I make You *accountable*-for to the *King* on his **Foundation**. Nor yet above 200 *l*. *Discharg'd* of the 8400 *l*. lately owing for *Principal* *Money* taken-up at *Interest*; nor more than 100. and odd *Pounds* given-in for your *Remainder* in *Cash*. While at the same time I have it to *observe* to you; that in consequence of the *Importunities* you have heretofore suffer'd from me, for the *discontinuing* your so frequent and almost unlimited *Admissions* of *Children* (as the only certain *Expedient* I could then, or can yet propose for *rescuing* Us from *Ruin*) their *Number* is from 1030. lower'd to 430; and consequently, your *Charge* diminish'd (through the successive *Abatements* of about 120 *Yearly*, between *Easter* 1694. and that now approaching 1699) by 600. *Children*: And the *Savings* therefrom (of what, had the contrary *Practice* continu'd, your *Expence* must have

have amounted to) fallen little short of 15000 *l*; and the Condition also of your *Purse*, some way or other, been as much better'd. Whereas, if what has been above-inform'd me be true (which God forbid, and yet I dare not disbelieve) **This** also is gone; and the **Hospital** rests in the same Degree of Distress it was in, when thought nearest being undone.

And this too; without One Penny of our Charge retrench'd, either in the Number or Expence of our Officers, from what it was when the Number of our Children was more by Three Fifths than they now are: But so much the Contrary, as to have the Charge of Officers said to be now Greater, by several Hundreds of Pounds, under our present 430 Children; than it was in the Years 1660 and 1661 with above 1100.

For God's sake therefore, Gentlemen, let us from these Effects be incited, instantly and closely to Consider in what Hands the Treasure and Stock of our Poor now lye. **Hands**, that (in one Word) need no other Evidence of their Unfitness for the Trust; than the Publick Reluctancy they are not asham'd to shew, to every thing that but Looks like bringing them to an Account.

Besides the Consideration, of how much more to be Lamented any Mis carriage would be, and less to be Excus'd, that should attend the Neglect of it, in case of any unexpected Change in the Person of our Treasurer; whose known Age will alone justify my Apprehension of it, even without the Help of that Declaration which Himself two Years since thought fit spontaneously to make in open Court, of his Disability (even then) both in Body and Mind, for longer executing his Office; and therefore resigning it had it accepted of by you.

4thly, --- In the Liberty taken by some Gentlemen, not of the lowest Name in the Management of this House; of arraigning in Common Conversation as well as singly to my self, these Enquiries of mine on behalf of our Orphans; as tending at least (if not designed) to the wresting the Government of it out of their Hands, who valuing themselves upon the Title of Church-of-England-Men, seem impatient under the Apprehension of being supplanted in it by the Fanatics. A Thought (God knows) of too little Weight with me, for Either's sake, to trouble my Head with: As well knowing, how little the Felicity of Mankind has at any time been owing to Nominal Distinctions in Religion; and no less remembering, how little the Bishop of Jerusalem, St. James, could be thought ignorant of that best of Names (of Christian, I mean) when to ascertain the Religion intended by him under his Epithetes of Pure and Undeiled, he waved the Use of either that or any other; and rather chose to distinguish it, by the Moral Lessons, of Visiting the Fatherless and the Widows in their Afflictions, and living unspotted of the World: Lessons read to Mankind, long before the Name of Christian or of its Holy Founder was ever heard of therein.

In pursuance of which; If to subject our Orphans to all the Consequences of a Mispent Revenue; if to add to the Affliction of their Widows-Mothers, the sorrowful Effects too often seen in them of a corrupted

corrupted *Education*; if the *Disappointments* arising from *both*, to the religious *Purposes* of their pious and bountiful *Benefactors*, be in the *Sense* of these *Gentlemen's Church* the fulfilling of that *Description*; Much *Good* may do them with their *Churchmenships*; and may I be their *Cast-away*.

5thly. ---- *Lastly*, In the *Proof* so lately given me, of the little to be hoped-for of *Remedy* to these *Evils*, from what I must acknowledge my having lodged my last *Relyance-on*, towards it: namely, The getting them fairly laid before a *General-Court*. Forasmuch as from the *Ineffectualness* of all my *Endeavours* on that behalf, in the *Solemnity* of the *Summons* provided for that held the 25th of *November* last; I find the *Predominancy* of those whose *Business* it is to obstruct it, such; as to have been able to prevent the very *Reading* of the *Papers* it was alone called to the *Hearing of*; and consequently, to send them home as little apprised of the *Import* thereof to the *Weal* of the *House*, as they were at their coming thither.

From which so fresh *Confirmation* of a *Truth* I had but too often before both *experimented* and *complain'd* of; and from the further *Practices* occurring to me on this occasion, of *intercepting*, *suppressing*, and otherwise indirect *disposing* of *Papers* not thought for some *Private Turns* fitt to be admitted to *Publick View*: I think it high *Time* for me, to lay-down the *Tenderness* wherewith I have hitherto govern'd my self, in the *exposing* of what I have already said, and may hereafter have further to say hereon; proceeding (as I lately told You, I should) to the communicating the same without *Restriction* to the *Gentlemen* of this *House*, in the like *Open method* I have (with good *Acceptance*) been for some time using towards the *Honourable* the *Lord Mayor* and *Court* of *Aldermen* our immediate *Superiors*, on the same *Subject*. I am with great respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most faithful and most humble Servant,

S. Pepys.

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Mr. PEPPYS,
upon the State of
~~Christ~~-Hospital.

Page IV.

Apr. 29. 1699.

Mr. PEPYS

To the Right Honourable Sir Francis
Child, Kt. Lord Mayor, and to
the Court of Aldermen, up-
on the Present State of
CHRIST-HOSPITAL.

York-Buildings, March
7th. 169¹.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

THAT nothing may rest *uncommunicated* to this **Court**, of what goes from me to that of **Christ-Hospital**; any more than, by your *Allowance*, I withhold from *Them*, ought of what I offer *You*: I here tender you a *Copy* of a *Letter* of mine thither, of the 25. of *January*.

The *Contents* of which bearing my *Farewel* to *Them*, as with all respect my purpose is in this to *You*; I cannot but recommend the *Perusal* thereof to this **Court**; as carrying with them such a *Representation* of the *perishing State* of that *House*, in some *fresh Particulars* essential to the *Well-being* of it, as render it a thing little less than *hopeless* for me (by *ordinary Means*, at least) any longer to think of *saving* it: After finding my self put to above *seven Months Labour*, in compassing only its **Treasurer's** *Signing* that *one Article* of his **Account**, which you had before had from him *Unsign'd*; and more than *ten*, in finding *Passage* only, through this **Court** thither, to my late **Report** of the *State* of the same.

And *What* it is that may be look't-for from it, even now it is *there*, with a **Committee** of few less than *forty*, and of them the *Majority* such, as will find little *Work* for them in it, but *Self-Arraignment*; I submit to your *Lordship* and this **Court**.

Especially, when you shall be pleas'd to reflect upon the present *Circumstances* of that *House's Government*; viz.

UNDER the *Guidance* of a *President*, equal indeed to the worthiest of his *Predecessors*, both in his general *Virtues*, and special *Munificence* to that *Place*. But *One*, whose *Piety* has out-liv'd his *Strength* for being otherwise *personally* aidful to it, in any of the *Weightier Duties* of that *Charge*.

UNDER a *Treasurer*, who (besides what you have elsewhere before you concerning him) was also pleas'd to declare himself *unable* both in *Mind* and *Body*, for the longer *Execution* of his *Office*; and therefore made his formal *Resignation* of it, and had it as formally *accepted-of* from him in *Court* there, above *two years* since.

UNDER the *Direction* of *Gentlemen* acting indeed as *Governours*, and to whom as *such* I have for more than 23. years had the *Honour* of reckoning myself a *Fellow-servant*; but are said to stand *reported* to You at this day by your *Learned Council*, not to be *such*, nor capable of being *so*, without (what they have never yet had) the *Confirmation* of this *Court*.

And lastly, *UNDER* an *Administration* also on the part of your *Lordship* and your *Honoured Brethren*, so *Gentle*; as to have suffer'd your *Orders* thither, even in *Points* the most important, to lye 7. *Months* together wholly neglected, and your *Authority* as openly renounc'd; without having yet thought fit to have ought done (within my *Notice* at least) in *Affertion* of it.

A *Reflection*, My Lord, as hard to be *accounted-for*, as in it self *Grievous*..

Forasmuch as, If after so uninterrupted a *Jurisdiction*, as has been always exercis'd by this *Court*, and with a *Submission* as constantly paid thereto from these *Hospitals*; If after so long a *Succession* of *Gifts* and *Bequests* to them, and those to great *Values*, in reliance upon the *Credit* and *Authority* of this *Court* alone for their *Security*; If after so establish'd a *Veneration* acquir'd to it, as *Guardians* of these *Foundations*, and particularly as the *Moral Fathers* of the *Orphans* of this *House*, when in your *Easter* and other *Solemnities*, They, as *Your Children*, bear no small part in the *Honour* of your *Processions*; And lastly, If after what in my particular I have been endeavouring herein for *Your Service*, and for the *Service* of the *Poor*; this *Court* shall appear to have been all this while thus *credited* and thus *obey'd*, without *Authority* at this day, under the greatest of their *Miscarriages*, to *visit* and *reform* Them; for so also your *Learned Council* are said to have *determin'd*. What must be thought of this *mistake*? And particularly,

How will the *Pious Credulity* of our *Princely Founders* and *past Benefactors* be to be lamented; and what more to be either *hop'd* or *wish'd-for* of Them, on these *Terms*, in time to come?

What must the *Apprehensions* now be of *Those*, whose *Subsistence* rests upon the *Authority* only of this *Court*, for the *Payments* that

that **Houſe** ſtands charg'd with to their *Uſe*, out of the larger *Benevolences* of their Charitable *Aunceſtors*?

Or *Theirs*; whoſe *Debts* of more modern Date, lye unpaid (many *Thouſand Pounds* deep) by that **Hopſital** at *Intereſt*, upon no other *Security*?

What is there to be rely'd-on of *Fruit* from the *Retrospections* ſaid to be now on foot *there*, or thoſe lying before your *Lordſhip* and this **Court**, from my *Report*?

Or in a Word; What to be hop'd-for either of *Satisfaction* for ſo much of our **Dooz's** *Stock* and **Benefactor's** *Bounties* as has already *miſcarry'd*; or of better *Proviſion* in time to come, for ſecuring the *Remainder*?

What, I ſay my Lord, muſt the *Reſult* of all this be, and how to be *answer'd-for*; ſhould this **Court** be ſo unhappy, as *knowingly* to permit ſuch a **Foundation** and its *Revenue* to reſt one day longer, in *Hands* no otherwiſe *qualify'd-for*, nor better *intitled* to the *Truſt* of it? While by a *Reſolution* of its own, not yet 16. *Months* old, you have been pleas'd to declare your ſelves *ſtanding* **Governours** of the ſame, and (as ſuch) required your being (as anciently) *ſummon'd* to every of its **Courts**, and accordingly have ever ſince been ſo, and now are: To the *entitling* Your ſelves (I fear) to a nearer *Concernment* in the *Fate* of it, than may have been yet ſufficiently reflected-on; and poſſibly, to an *Accountableneſs* with Them, for the *good* or *bad Events* of their *Managements* there.

A **Conſideration** I am the more willingly your preſent *Remembrancer* in, from the freſh *Endeavours* ſaid to be now on foot there, for *reſuming* their Old *Liberty* of *taking-in* **Childzen**, while unprovided of a Bit of *Bread* for thoſe they now have, otherwiſe than by running into *new Debt*, or length'ning their *Score* of *Intereſt* upon the *Old*; Beſides ſacrificing the *Innocence* of ſo many freſh *Infants*, to the *Diſſoluteneſs* of **Manners** now reigning, among *thoſe* they are to be there *mixed-with*. The *Evil* of whole **Contagion**, and *Preſſure* of which **Debt**, I take to be no otherwiſe *removable*, than by a total *Stop* to be for ſome time put, to the *Occaſions* of *Both*.

An **Expedient**, that I well know will at the firſt hearing be thought as *Impracticable*, as in other *Reſpects* *Extraordinary*.

But the *Caſe* is *Extraordinary* too; and conſequently, to reſtrain its *Remedy* to *Ordinary Methods* only, is little other, than to leave it *Remedy-leſs*. Which I cannot think any *Gentleman*, who hath the *Honour* and *Truſt* of a **Governour** there, will contentedly ſit-down with, while furniſh'd with any thing to offer towards the *Saving* it, as (for want of better) I do *this*: And yet with an *Opinion* ſo far from deeming it *Impracticable*, as to reckon it a *Work* neither of *Length* nor *Difficulty*; if, in *Atonement* for that *Miſconduct* of ours, by which, from the *Proſperity* this **Houſe** was in while under the *Care* but of 16. **Governours** with 500. **Childzen**, it has been brought into the *Condition* it now lies with 400. **Governours** (little more or leſs) and

but 400. **Children**; if (I say) in *Atonement* for that *Misconduct*, we would improve the Opportunity of this *nearness* in our *Numbers*, to the *causing* the *House* at once of the *Whole*, by every *Governour's* taking to himself *One*: Thereby leaving the *Income* of it entirely free to the *Discharge* of its *Debts*, doing Right to its *Founders* and *Benefactors*, and that being done, to the setting-out *afresh*, with a *Revenue* clear'd, its *Discipline* reform'd, and *Provision* made for its future better *Conduct* through the *Whole*. And this I lay with all *Deference* before your *Lordship* and this *Court*, as that without which, or some other *Equivalent*, I must avow my *Despair* of ever seeing this unhappy *House* in the *State* it ought to be; and therefore would be glad, with your *Concurrence* and the *Concurrence* of the *Gentlemen* of that *Body*, to be doing my part, either in this or any other *Effectual Proposition*, towards it.

I am well aware, *My Lord*, of the *Censure* this *Fervor* of mine may expose me to, as *One* overpressing in a *Cause*, wherein *Others* neither less *interested* nor less *discerning* than my self, are pleas'd to shew so little of the *Dissatisfaction* I do; and without any *surprise* on my side at it, as well remembering how little different my own *Sentiments* were of it, while my *Knowledge* thereof (like theirs) had no other *Direction*, than the *Information* of *Others*. Whereas no sooner was I engaged in the closer and more deliberate *Enquiries* apply'd thereto of my own, but that *Indifference* of mine was awaken'd to the Degree of *Concernment* I now profess; and which, on like *Conviction*, would be no less in any other, whose *Morals* (like mine) know no middle, in matters of *Trust* at least, between scrupulously *Just*, and down-right the *contrary*. Or to speak more plainly; between mixing my own *Hand* in the *Ruin* of this Religious *House*, and sitting silently within *View* of its being brought-about, by the *Vanitie*, *Supineness*, *Prodigality*, or *Self-interest* of *Others*.

Indulge me therefore, *My Lord*, the *Liberty* of this *One* only closing *Note* to Your *Lordship* upon this *Subject*. Namely, That as the *Direction* of the *Hospitals*, has in all times hitherto been undeniably exercised by your Honourable *Predecessors*, in this *Place*; and as uninterruptedly *submitted to*. So is it no less evident, that however an *Occasion* has now (after *sevenscore* years *Practice*) been administred to the *questioning* it; Your said *Predecessors*, (the *Lord Mayor*, *Commonalty*, and *Citizens* of *London*) upon *Covenants* first by Them entered-into with *H. Edward VI.* for the good *Government* of Them, were by his special *Charter* of *Incorporation* as *Governours* thereof, furnished with all the *Powers* requisite to the enabling them to make good those *Covenants*.

In consideration of which, and in *Duty* to Your *Lordship*, to the *City*, to this *Court*, and to the *Poor*, I cannot (as a *Servant* to all) but most earnestly pray; that this *Matter* may without delay, be laid for *Remedy* before that *Body Corporate*, where-ever it now rests; in order to the preventing, if possible, any unnecessary recourse to *Methods Extraordinary*, for what should be thought attainable by *Ordinary*. Especially

cially while, Sitting a **Parliament**, with so many of your own Number, and of the *Hospital's*, **members** therein, and with a *Bill* already (I take it) before Them, relating to **Charitable Uses**; no reasonable *Supplement* ought to be doubted from it, to that *Ordinary Power*: If any such can be judg'd wanting, after so illustrious a *Proof*, as I have sometime since given you, of the *issue* of his Lordship, the present *Lord Chancellor's Proceeding* in the late Memorable Case of St. **Katharines**. A *Proceeding* I cannot but remind you of; as well as of the *Check* put but few years before at the **Great Seal**, to a *Visitation* then offer'd-at, in a Method less regular, in the Case of **St. Thomas's**.

To conclude, My Lord, this *Calamity* of ours in our **Hospital-concernment** is a **Spot** not to be cover'd in our **Feats** of **Charity**, once the *Glory* of this *City*. And a **Spot** not at the *worst* neither, but daily *spreading*, and daily *deepening* too, through every part of it. Witness its *Appearance* (where least to have been lookt-for) in the very *last* act of our *Treasurer's signing* this *Account*; as giving you therein, his own *Hand* in Evidence against the *Truth* of what you had had before from him *Unsign'd*; and in which, as in all other its former *Editions*, to my self, to the *Hospital*, and from thence to the *Lords* of the *Treasury*, there had been suppress'd in the single *Article* of **Sea Wages**, a Sum no less than 1400 *l.* besides others of greater *Moment* yet behind. And this too, notwithstanding repeated *Cautions* to them concerning it; and particularly in my *last*, whereof this brings you a *Copy*. And since which (as *fresh* at it is) they have nevertheless adventur'd to *ask*, and actually *received* more than 700 *l.* upon that very *Head* on which the *Treasurer* has so lately own'd his having *twice* that Sum of the *King's* in his *Hand*, yet to be *accounted-for*.

Be pleas'd therefore to think of some speedy *Prevention* to the *Growth* of this our *Reproach*. And towards it, permit me only to say; That as uneasy as the *Undertaking* may appear to *others*; I see no Cause of apprehending any thing of more *difficulty* needful towards it (whether as to the due *animadverting* upon what is *past*, or better *providing* for what is *to come*) than a *Right Choice* of a very few **Hands** to be *assign'd* thereto, supported with an *Authority* suited to the **Work**, and **Powers** requisite to the rendering their *Labours* and *Determinations* therein **Effectual**.

Which being *adjusted*, and that *only*; I should with great assurance of *success*, both readily and gladly pay the utmost of my *personal Service* to the *Gentlemen* so *commission'd*; as well in detecting the *Errors* of my own *Calculations* (and which for the **Dooz's** sake I could wish *more*, than I dare yet hope them to be) as suggesting and applying adequate *Remedies*, to what those *Gentlemen* in their happier *Enquiries* may find *truly needing* the same.

But if after all (which *God* avert) it should be our *Infelicity*, even with the aid of that **Charter**, not to have wherewith of our *own* to help our selves herein. The *Cause* nevertheless is too *sacred*, both in *itself*, and as it is the **King's**, to be permitted to *sink*, while within the

the *support* I have so often mention'd, of his Own **Sovereign Will-**
tation; And more particularly in what relates to *Himself* within *our*
Care in the **Mathematical Foundation**; by translating it, from
the *Hands* in which it now languishes, to *those* he is pleased to intrust
with *that* of his Own later *Erection*, to the same *Royal Purpose* in the
Advancement of Navigation, within his Own *Palace* and *Inspection*
at **Greenwich**.

I am in most respectful manner,

My Lord and Gentlemen,

Your ever most faithful and obedient Servant,

S. Pepys.

1840

1840

1840

1840

upon the State of
Christ-Hospital.

Paper V.

Apr. 29. 1699.

Mr. PEPYS

To the President, and Governours
of CHRIST-HOSPITAL, upon
the Present State of the said
HOSPITAL.

To the Honour'd Sir John Moor, Kt. and President,
and the rest of my Honour'd Friends, the Gover-
nours of CHRIST-HOSPITAL.

Tork-Buildings, Marsh 30th. 1699

Gentlemen,

YOUR Resolution of the 22th instant, importing your Ele-
ction of me to the *Treasurership* of this Hospital, was
delivered me by the worthy Gentlemen appointed there-
to, with a degree of Respect as obliging on their part, as the Mes-
sage it self was on Yours; and both surprising.

Surprising I say; but without ought of what (I find) was in too
much *Tenderness* apprehended from me by some of this Body concern-
ing it; as being One, who think nothing below the Character of any
Man to execute, in a Service of Charity. And who therefore in my
late Searches into the Condition of this House, descended to Of-
fices much beneath any thing that can occur in what you are now
calling me to.

I therefore do most thankfully own the Proof you herein tender
me of the Continuance of your Esteem; after the unwelcome Free-
dom I have for some time been unavoidably exercising towards you,
upon the Unhappy Subject of your present State; in which Your selves
are now pleas'd to give me this Testimony of your acquiescence:
and in the Redress whereof, this Court shall never want any thing
within my power improvable thereto.

But whether in the method you now propose, is what I have made
it my business for some days to consider; without being able to bring

my self to any other *Determination* in it, Than that the giving you any *conclusive* Answer (whether of **Acceptance** or **Refusal**) before this *Resolution* of yours shall have passed the *Censure* of another **Court**, is a no less *Exposing* of Myself, than *Imposing* on You, (as in a very late *Case*) under the *Uncertain* Issue of a *subsequent* **Court**; and when *that* is over, of the **Lord Mayor** and **Court of Aldermen** also: As *that* without which, by the known *Constitution* of all our *Hospitals*, no *Election* of a **Treasurer** is valid. A *Consideration* of more than common *Weight* at this time; from the *Question* under which the *Authority* of that **Court** now lies with *this*; without Ought I can hear-of yet done on *their* side, in its *Affertion*.

Which while in *doing*, and for Your clearer *Guidance* in Your *second* **Debates** on this matter at the next **Court**, I think it becoming me, in *faithfulness* both to You and Myself, to lay before You the few following *Considerations*.

1st. — That I am no **freeman**; and consequently, according to the *Original Book* of **Ordinances** by which alone (without entring into the *Reason* of it) *this* **Court** and *that* of the **Lord Mayor** and **Aldermen** are at liberty to *Act* herein; I neither am *capable* of being Your **Treasurer**, nor You nor They, *apart* or *together*, in a *Capacity* of making me so. Nor is there, I believe, any one *Instance* to be shewn me, of a **Treasurer** not a **freeman**: And should therefore most unwillingly subject Myself to *Question*, for meddling *unwarrantably* with a **Revenue** so *Sacred* as that of the **Wool**; or be an *Occasion* of Your *adventuring* upon *that* in my *Case*, which was *never* yet done in any, nor can *now* justifiably be in *this*.

2^{dly}. — That the *Office* and *Work* of Your **Treasurer** ought not to be *estimated* by what we have *seen* of it in its *Execution* for *some* *Years* *past*; but by the *Condition* the **House** is reduced to, from its being executed no *otherwise*. As being an *Office*, that calls at once for *Qualifications*, *such* and *so many*, as rarely meet in the same *Person*: Such are (besides *that* of an approved *Integrity*) *Vigour* of **Mind**, *Steadiness* of **Health**, *Entire* **Leisure**, *Uninterestedness*, *Zeal* for and *Tenderness* towards the **Wool**, *General* **Experience**, and particular *Practice* in the *Business* of **Accounts**, a *Genius* fitted for **Command** joyn'd with **Temper**, a *Thorough-Insight* into the *Laws* and *Ends* of our **Constitution**, and a *Capacity* of **Controlling** every of our **Officers** and **Wasters** in the *Execution* of their **Dutys**, with a *constancy* of **Attendance** and **Application** (in his own *Person*, and not by *Others*) to the *Performance* of his own. A **Task** both in *Bulk* and *Weight*, too much for my *Age* and known *Infirmities*; Besides the *Disabilities* I am alone *Conscious* to my self of, for it.

And though *what* I have here to add, might not possibly be reckon'd of *Moment* enough alone in this *Debate*: yet in *Conjunction* with what is *already* said, I know not how without *Injury* to my self to omit the observing; that I can with no *Satisfaction* think of accepting of a **Charge**, which my self must be own'd to have had the greatest *Hand* in the rendring *Vacant*.

3^{ly}. — That suitable to my *Advice* to you *elsewhere* on this *Subject*, I do not see with what *Safety* this *Court* can proceed to the giving a *final Discharge* to its late *Treasurer*, nor how it should expect his being *Succeeded* by any Person of *Sincerity* or *Substance*, till a *State* shall be first *Adjusted* of all your *Accounts*, *Revenues*, *Charges* and *Debts*, to your Own and Their *Satisfaction*; and that also laid before, and acquiesced-in by the *Court* of *Aldermen*. Besides the *Review* and fresh *Establishment* fit to be first had of the *Work* and *Instructions* of that *Officer*, before the *Admission* of a *New*. As foreseeing little *Fruit* from any *Change* of *Hands* (be it what it will) where those *Hands* shall be obliged by no other *Rules* nor *Restrictions*, than those we owe our present *Distresses* to.

For the more *Successful Dispatch* of which, as well on the part of your said *Treasurer* as *Your selves*; I submit it to You, whether it may not be *advisable*, that the *Current Work* of this *Office* be for the *Present* lodg'd with a small *Committee* of Your own *Number*, properly chosen; till by the *Adjustment* of these *Matters*, You shall be in a *Condition* of restoring it to its *Ordinary Methods*.

4^{ly}. — Lastly, That no *Degree* of *Industry*, *Experience*, or other the *Virtues* (before requir'd) in a *Treasurer*, can alone be thought *Sufficient* at this *Juncture* (where our *Whole Constitution* lies at once out of *Order*) to compass its *Reformation*, without equal *Aid* from a no less *vigorous* and *persevering*, however otherwise *meritorious* a *President*. One, I mean, whose *thorough-knowledge* in the *Design*, *Powers*, *Limitations*, and *Orders* of this *Pious Foundation*, and the *Rules* of their *Execution*, is able both to preserve *himself* from being either *discouraged* or *imposed-on*, and by his *Authority*, *Zeal* and *Vigilance*, to prevent those *Practices* which, from the *want* hereof, the *Generality* of this *House* has been so long *misled* by, to its *Undoing*. A *Reflection*, that in one word, would alone suffice (lay there nothing *else* in my way) to deter me from the *Undertaking* You invite me to, under the *Circumstances* we at present labour in this *Particular*.

Which having said, and the *Reasons* of it thus *opened*; it remains only for me to *beg*, that my *declining* Your present *Offer* may not be taken for a *Declension* in any part of my *Concernment* for the *Prosperity* of this *House*. Forasmuch as no *Consideration* shall ever *discourage* or *divert* me from the *pursuit* of it; till by some *Means*, *Ordinary* or *Extraordinary* (though much rather the *former*) I see it *restored* to the *State* wherein all *Good men* wish it.

In view whereof, give me leave with great *Satisfaction* once more to *assure* You, that (without any such *Obligation* as this of your *Treasurerhip*) neither You nor Your helpless *Orphans* shall ever want the best *Effects* of my *Personal Attendance* and *Service*, from the *Moment* that, by Your *thorough-Applications*, and those of the *Court* of *Aldermen* towards it, I shall have any *Grounds* to *hope*, that such my *Attendance* and *Service*, may be followed with any *Success*, to the *Recovery* of the lost *Honour* of this *House*, by its *Return* to that *Religious Strictness* which

Your most humble and obedient Servant,
S. Pepys.

Your most humble and obedient Servant,

S. Pepys.

For the more successful Discharge of which as well on the part of your
and **Treasurer** I submit it to You whether it may not be
advised that the **Office** be to the **Post** or **Post**
and a **Committee** of You and **New** be chosen, till
the **Office** of the **Office** You will be in a **Committee** of **Post**
to its **Office** **Post**
45. — **Post**, This no **Post** or **Post**, **Post**, or **Post**,
the **Post** (before **Post**) the **Post**, can alone be **Post**
affairs in this **Post** (where one **Post** **Post** lies at
in of **Post**) to compare its **Post**, without equal **Post** from a
its **Post** and **Post**, however otherwise **Post** **Post**.
One, means, whose **Post** in the **Post**, **Post**, **Post**,
and **Post** of this **Post** **Post**, and the **Post** of their **Post**,
is able both to **Post** himself from being either **Post** or **Post**,
or, and by his **Post**, **Post** and **Post**, to **Post** the **Post**
which, from the **Post**, the **Post** of this **Post** has been to
long **Post**, to its **Post**. A **Post** that in one **Post**, would
alone suffice (lay there nothing else in my way) to **Post** me from the
What **Post** You **Post** me to, under the **Post** we are **Post** la-

only for me to say, that my dearest Your present offer may not be taken for a Decision in any part of my Concernment for the Property of this Point. Forasmuch as no Consideration shall ever discharge or exonerate me from the payment of it; till by some Orders, Ordinary or Extraordinary (though much rather the former) I see it referred to the

In view whereof, give me leave with great Satisfaction once more to assure You, that without any such Obligation as this of your Obedience (Interdiction) neither You nor Your helpers Obedience shall ever want the full benefit of my Personal Attendance and Service from the Moment that by Your thorough Application, and those of the Court or Elders here towards it, I shall have any Ground to hope that such my Attention and Service may be followed with any Success to the Recovery of the said Members of this House by its Return to that Religious Strick which

upon the State of

Christ Hospital.

Apr. 29. 1699.

upon the State of